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WOMEN IN POLITICS.

The question, so long and so profoundly discussed, as to whether women shall enter politics, no longer exists, though now and then some slow-witted, owl-wit laboriously treats it as an unsolved problem. The women themselves long since settled the matter by the simple process of entering politics. Probably there was never a time in the history of civilization when feminine influence was not felt in the affairs of government, but it has remained for a republic which imposes responsibility upon every man to arouse general interest in public questions among women. That this interest exists, and is growing with each year, admits of no argument. Opinions may differ as to the proper extent of their active participation in such affairs, but these differences may be safely left to adjust themselves. At the present time the majority of intelligent women are content to inform themselves upon the issues of the day and occasionally or unconsciously to exert such influence as they may possess upon the voters, or the law-makers, or other recognized political factors who come within their individual orbits. This is not a part of any "movement"; it is simply the natural outcome of education and public spirit. Possibly the same causes which have created this degree of political interest may yet lead the many to join with the law in depending the ballot and other "rights" enthusiasts tell us so. When that day comes there is no room for doubt that they will get all they ask; but, in the meantime, they read the newspapers, they attend lectures to political speeches, they earnestly express themselves with great freedom and force on the topics of the day. In the main, this political element, so far as it affects the two great parties, has been without organization; but, at last, the idea that if women will take part in politics, they may as well do so systematically, is being acted upon, as indicated by the formation of the Woman's National Republican committee and its appeal to the Republican sisterhood. This circular letter, the greater portion of which has appeared in the Journal, attaches great importance to the industrial issue, because of its bearing upon the happiness of home and freidie, and urges the subordination of home to national issues. In an introductory paragraph, it says:

"Do you realize the moral side, the hearty side, of the economic questions which are being discussed in the campaign? Do you remember that when labor is degraded woman is degraded? The shop girl, the factory operative, the sewing woman, indeed every working woman—whether she toil in home, or shop, or school—is interested in the maintenance of the American standard of value in labor and its return to the home. In November next 13,000,000 voters will go to the polls and determine who shall receive the highest honor in the gift of the American people. Is this anything to you? Does it make any difference to you who this man is, and for what set of principles he stands? Would not the choice of Benjamin Harrison and Levi F. Morton, socialist executive of this great Nation, tend to establish a popular standard of private morals and public service which any mother might present to the aspirations of her son? Do not these lives illustrate that purity in personal character consistent with the highest worldly success? That the dealings of the mart of trade, the court of justice, the legislative chamber, or the camp of war would cease to be a dish in the home, if it were not for the Nation's life that these truths be emphasized in the characters of the people's chief representatives?"

These searching questions are answered in the committee's own words when they add:

"The united influence of Republican women will conserve moral power in society, will defend political power for the public good, and aid in the dominance of Republican principles."

Instructions accompanying the circular indicate briefly how effective work may be done. Young women are especially requested to urge gentlemen to join them in the study of the economic questions of the day, which questions, when viewed in a practical way, and applied as they must be to the affairs of daily life, are neither dry nor uninteresting. "Let gentlemen understand," says the committee, "that the man of the present day must have positive convictions on the right side of political questions to entitle him to the respect of intelligent American women. Let no woman suppose that current political questions are outside or beyond her domain. The average woman may in the time which she can command and the ability she employs in the ordinary routine of woman's work become so intelligent on these questions and render her home and her country valuable service. Much good work can be accomplished in small districts, and sometimes in larger communities, by a careful registration and personal canvass of the voters by the women."

These are desirable, and are certainly should be taken not to hinder unnecessarily. Let not overcaution, however, cause neglect, and neglect bring failure."

Indiana women have not waited for this appeal, but in many places have already organized for work. Encouraged by example, and inspired by such noble leaders, it is probable that other women, thousands of whom have shown their interest in the Republican cause by pilgrimages to the home of the candidate, will engage in more active and systematic service than heretofore. With such allies earnestly at work the voting half of the party may well feel their chances for victory greatly increased.

GENERAL HARRISON'S SPEECHES.

From the day of General Harrison's nomination until that of his departure from this city, June 20 to Aug. 18, he made forty-one speeches. These speeches were made to visiting delegations from this and other States, including several clubs and special organizations, but mostly unorganized masses of people. Sometimes their coming was announced a few days in advance, and sometimes only a few hours. In every case there was a spokesman on behalf of the visitors whose speech preceded that of General Harrison. The latter never knew in advance what the spokesman was going to say, but always shaped his own speech somewhat with reference to what had been said. General Harrison's speeches were in every instance extemporaneous, that is, delivered without manuscript or notes. The speeches were reported in short-hand and given to the press just as delivered, excepting such slight verbal alterations as are almost always found necessary in proof-reading. They covered a variety of topics, and, though touching on many points, each one was short. The following sentences indicate the general line of thought in the speeches. Without including all the speeches or all the striking sentences they form an interesting collection of campaign tactics. They are not selected because they are better than other sentences that might have been selected, but because each one is complete in itself and a sort of key-note to the speech from which it is taken:

"Kings sometimes bestow, upon those whom they desire to honor, decorations. But that man is most highly decorated who has the regard and affection of his friends."

"The commandment of the war will never end until lives are lived."

"We could always depend upon the faithfulness of the black man. He might be mistaken, but he was never false."

"I do not know why we cannot hold our political differences with respect for each other's opinions, and with entire respect for each other personally."

"Any development that does not reach and benefit all our people is not to be desired."

"Any policy that transfers production from the American to the English or German shop works an injury to all American workmen."

"A manly assertion by each of his individual rights, and a manly concession of equal rights to every other man, is the boast and the law of good citizenship."

"The gates of Castile Garden swing inward. They do not swing outward to any American laborer seeking a better country than this."

"The Republican party stands for the principle of protection."

"There is a sense of justice, of fairness, that will assert itself against these attempts to coin party advantages out of public wrong. The day when men can be disfranchised or shorn of their political power for color's sake must have an end in our country."

"We believe it to be good for the whole country that loyalty and fidelity to the flag should be honored."

"Our party stands unequivocally, without evasion or qualification, for the doctrine that the American market shall be preserved for our American products."

"My countrymen, it is no time now to use an abstract scale to weigh the rewards of the man who saved the country."

"It is one of the best evidences of the prosperity of our cities that so large a proportion of the men who work are covered by their own roof-trees. If we would perpetrate this crime, we must maintain the American scale of wages."

"The laboring men of this land may safely trust every just reform in which they are interested to public discussion and to the logic of reason."

"It can easily be demonstrated that if our revenue laws were so adjusted that the importations of goods should be doubled it would be good for the workmen of England, but I think it would be hard to demonstrate that it would be good for the workmen of America."

"Education is the great conservative and assimilating force. Therefore, in our political campaigns, men think for the people, and the truth will assert its sway over the minds of our people."

"The home is the best and is the first school of good citizenship. It is the great conservative and assimilating force. I should despair for my country if American citizens were to be trained only in our schools, valuable as their instruction is. It is in the home that we first learn obedience and respect for law."

"The protective system is a barrier against the flood of foreign importations and the competition of underpaid labor in Europe. Those who do not think for the people, and those who live behind it to make a plain statement of their purposes."

"Every safeguard of law should be thrown around the ballot-box until fraud in voting and fraud in counting shall receive the sure penalties of law, as well as the reprobation of all men."

"The disastrous effects upon our workingmen and working women of competition with cheap, underpaid labor are not obviated by keeping the cheap worker over the sea if the product of his cheap labor is allowed free competition with our own products. We must protect our people against competition with the products of underpaid labor abroad, as well as against the coming to our shores of paupers, laborers under contract and the Chinese labor."

"The Republican party has never found it necessary or consistent with its great principles to suppress free discussion of any question. There is not a Republican community where any man may not advocate, without fear, his political belief."

"Do not allow any one to persuade you that the great contest as to tariff policy is one between schedules. It is not a question of 7-per-cent reduction. It is a question between wide-apart principles—the principle of protection, the intelligent recognition in the franchise of our tariff as a duty to protect our American industries and maintain the American scale of wages on the one hand, and on the other a denial of the constitutional right to make our customs duties protective, or the assertion of the doctrine that free competition with foreign products is the ideal condition to which all our legislation should tend."

AN Englishman who has been visiting in Boston is quoted by an Eastern paper as saying that he was shocked at the bad sanitary condition of its streets, and, in particular, was amazed at the litter of old paper allowed to accumulate in the gutters and blow in people's faces, carrying with it the germs of disease.

THE OMAHA REPUBLICAN AND THE ABOVE REVELATION.

Let self-respecting temperance Republicans take notice of the advertisement in the Omaha Republican, who undoubtedly knows what he is talking about. Let the Republican press everywhere publish the fact, for the creature is spreading the vilest of lies, and is doing so in a very large number, belied to their slaughter by such shameless fraud!

The Indiana Christian Advocate, noticing the methods adopted by the temperance people of Iowa, says:

"Compare that body of honest, earnest men with the men who constitute the political party of today. They ran no man for the Legislature so as to elect such a man as Turpin to the Senate over such a man as Harrison. They ran no man for Congress so as to defeat such a man as Mason. They ran no man for the Supreme Court so as to elect such a man as Covert over such a man as Eliot."

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